



Everybody's
Backyard!



Park Ways

Newsletter of the Cincinnati Parks

Spring/Summer 2004

What's Happening in Your Backyard?

Cincinnati Parks are "Everybody's Backyard", so with the arrival of warmer weather comes lots of new things happening in your Cincinnati Parks! Here are just some of the fantastic highlights!

Theodore M. Berry International Friendship Park

The latest addition to Theodore M. Berry International Friendship Park is a gift from Cincinnati's German Sister City, Munich, Germany! The Castle of Air — an open stainless steel-clad pavilion to be dedicated in Spring, 2004 — has been installed within the Garden of Europe. The gift from the citizens of Munich included the design, fabrication and shipping of the pavilion from Europe to Cincinnati. The pavilion's design, by German Architect Peter Haimerl, is a contemporary interpretation of a historic German castle. It is covered in a highly reflective metal surface which is intended to reflect the green of the park — and to a certain extent is meant to be almost invisible! The pavilion is at once an open-air shelter, a venue for performances or events, and an art object. "Danke Shoen", Munich!

Hopkins Park

Thanks to a \$500,000 federal grant through the Department of the Interior's Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Act (UPARR), and City of Cincinnati matching funds of \$214,000, Mt. Auburn's Hopkins Park is being entirely redesigned and rebuilt! The park — at the intersection of historic Mt. Auburn Avenue and Dorchester Street — was built in 1866 and is one of the City's oldest. Though it was renovated in the 1970's with concrete terraces and other improvements, it was experiencing significant deterioration by the 1990s. Working with the neighborhood in 2003 and into early 2004 to determine what the new design should include, the Park Board has engaged Vivian Llambi, Landscape Architects, to redesign the park. Final plans include a new plaza for community gatherings, a handicapped accessible walkway winding throughout the park, new lighting and landscaping, seating and game tables, an upper overlook taking advantage of the view from the top of the park, and opening the front of the park to the street to form a more inviting entrance. Park construction is expected to get underway in the summer of 2004 with the bulk of construction to be completed by the end of the year.

Stanbery Park

Stanbery Park is getting a brand new look! A new master plan for Stanbery Park was created in 2001, jointly funded by the City and the private

sector. Working with the neighborhood, the private funds were raised by the Stanbery Park Advisory Council along with the Cincinnati Parks Foundation. The plan called for an array of improvements which were expected to be built in phases as funds became available. With the Park Board's signing of a partnership agreement with the Hamilton County Park District in 2003 for the operation and improvement of Fernbank Park, Park Board funds originally budgeted for Fernbank became available to pay for the implementation of the first phase of the Stanbery Park plan. Consistent with the master plan, the first phase improvements will include construction of a Civic Green, formed by a new perimeter walkway, a new playground, landscaping, and new park furnishings. Park construction should start in the summer of 2004 with construction completed by the end of the year. Human Nature is the local landscape architect carrying out the design work.

Take a Hike!

Cincinnatians will soon be able to walk the Kirby Valley Trail — a new three-mile pathway that will link three neighborhoods! A State of Ohio grant was recently approved, and once the trail has been built, hearty hikers all over town will be able to kick up their heels at this new addition to our Park system. The trail will lead from Colerain Avenue in Mt. Airy (near the entrance to Mt. Airy Forest) over wooded hill-sides to Kirby Road at Parks' Bradford Felter Tanglewood. From there, it will connect to Fox Preserve and then to Greeno Woods, ending at a small parking area further east at Kirby Road. The \$125,000 project will be funded with \$90,000 from the national Recreational Trails Program (administered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources). The City of Cincinnati will provide \$35,000 in matching funds. The trail will be the first step in linking together several properties within a major Greenway Corridor, and will eventually extend to LaBoiteaux Woods and to additional Park Preserves. The trail will connect the neighborhoods of Mt. Airy, College Hill and Northside.

Central Riverfront Park

The Park Board continues to lead the efforts to design, fund and build a new riverfront park at the front door of Downtown. Central Riverfront Park will complement development of The Banks and will effectively link The Banks and Downtown to the Ohio River. The Park will provide a new recreational resource for the region, serve as a front door to the Underground Railroad Freedom Center, and provide a new

setting for festivals and events. Working with the Port Authority, 3CDC, the City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County and a variety of stakeholders, Cincinnati Parks is preparing plans in sync with downtown development. The master plan for the park was approved in 1999 and to date, the City has provided over \$1.8 million in funding, the State has allocated \$1 million and the Federal government has granted \$650,000 toward the design of the park. A notable achievement in early 2004 was Federal authorization for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to proceed with the design, engineering and other pre-construction activity for the park. This essentially established a federal mandate to participate in the park design, adding it to the mission of the Corps. The bulk of project funding is expected to come from Federal funds and the project would be designed, bid and managed by the Corps when the construction is federally authorized and funds are made available. The project is also expected to require a significant infusion of private funding. 2005-06 is the earliest that drawings could be prepared and the first phase of the park could be funded.

The New Otto Armleder Memorial Park & Recreation Complex

Construction on the first phase of the new Otto Armleder Memorial Park & Recreation Complex on the Little Miami River has already begun—and at 350 acres, it is set to become Cincinnati's second largest park (after Mt. Airy Forest). In the 1970s and 1980s, land acquisition funding for the new park was provided through the Federal Land & Water Conservation program, Community Development Block Grant funding, and land swaps. Now, with generous support from the Armleder Foundation, the City is proceeding from the master plan to design, development and construction. Situated on the banks of the Little Miami Scenic River, the Park will be created through an innovative "Park-nership" agreement between the Cincinnati Park Board, the Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) and Hamilton County Parks (HCP). Under the agreement, HCP will commit to investing about \$4 million over several years to complete the master plan implementation, and maintain and manage the park's leisure areas. (CRC will manage the recreational venues.) When completed, the park will include many recreational activity areas, such as soccer fields and dog run areas, as well as hiking and biking trails, canoe access, fishing areas, and large natural areas. Armleder Memorial Park will become the Park Board's fifth regional park and a marvelous new natural resource! Watch for news about the Phase I ribbon-cutting ceremonies this fall!

Letter from the Director

The livability of any city can be measured by many factors. Among them is the level of importance city leaders place on youth, education and natural resources. I am thrilled to report to you that your city officials — specifically the Mayor and the City Council — have elected to make these three focus areas true priority areas by providing vital funding for Cincinnati Parks' award-winning Nature Education programs. Even in our challenging budgetary times, the leadership of our City agreed with the Board of Park Commissioners and clearly saw the long-term benefits this critical investment would yield.

Their reasoning is sound — and demonstrates a deep understanding of the importance of Nature Education in our region. For over 75 years, Nature Education programs have engaged people of all ages and walks of life in learning about the ecological and historical resources within their very own Cincinnati Parks. The new knowledge program participants gain from these educational experiences motivates them to actively assist in the preservation, management and conservation of our precious natural resources.

With over 5,000 preserved acres in more than 150 park areas, Cincinnati's Parks are indeed living, learning nature laboratories for all of our region's citizens. From seasonal nature hikes, endangered species seminars and bird-watching excursions to the ecology of local aquatic life, insect life-cycles and wildlife mysteries, compelling Nature Education programs abound. Nature Education programs include over 42 summer camp programs in 16 different parks. This highly successful initiative brings inner-city children eight weeks of FREE nature programming right in their own neighborhood parks! Investing in the ongoing learning experiences of our children will certainly pay priceless dividends to our community in the future.

The solid partnership that the Mayor, City Council and the Cincinnati Parks Foundation (the private/public advocacy and fundraising development arm) have forged with the Park Board is a powerful illustration of the importance local leadership has placed on nature preservation through environmental education. If we hope to maintain — and even enhance — the high level of livability in our city, then there was no other budgetary decision to be made than the wise choice made by our visionary city leaders.

On behalf of our youth, volunteers and the future of our region, thank-you so very much!

Willie. F. Carden Jr.
Director, Cincinnati Parks



Cincinnati Parks Welcomes New Park Commissioner, Otto M. Budig, Jr.



and regional community life—immediately assumes his new position.

Mr. Budig is President of the Budco Group, a closely held company with interests in convention decorating, railroad ramping services, equipment leasing, realty and lift equipment rebuilding. Within the community, Otto M. Budig, Jr. has served as President of the Cincinnati Parks

Foundation—the private/public advocacy and fundraising development arm. He is also Past President of the Contemporary Arts Center, and has been a trustee on the boards of numerous arts and education organizations including the Cincinnati Ballet, the UC Foundation, the Cincinnati Zoo, the Carnegie Visual & Performing Arts Center, the Cincinnati Arts Association, Cincinnati Museum Center and the Institute of Fine Arts. In 1994, Mr. Budig founded the Otto M. Budig Foundation. Since that time, the Foundation that bears his name has been one of Cincinnati's leading financial supporters of the region's arts organizations with annual contributions totaling \$2 million.

The Cincinnati Park Board also wishes to extend its profound gratitude to Roger Ach, outgoing Park Board Commissioner, for his many years of dedicated service to Cincinnati Parks.

Management; and Paul G. Sittenfeld, Managing Director at Robert W. Baird & Company.

Our sincere thanks are also given to Lee Ault Carter and R. Christopher Weber—outgoing members of the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Parks Foundation. The late Mickey Kaplan also served as a member of the Board of Trustees. Her tireless efforts on behalf of Parks—as well as numerous other area arts and educational organizations—are legendary. Mickey will be deeply missed for many, many years to come.

Welcome New Trustees!

Eight new trustees have been named to the Board of the Cincinnati Parks Foundation. They are: Kristine H. Barr, Founder of Barr Corporate Success; Philip K. Cone, a commercial real estate broker; Minette J. Cooper, former Cincinnati City Council member and Vice-Mayor; Grant S. Cowan, an attorney with Frost Brown Todd, LLC; Kate Hawkins, former Grassroots Campaign Director for the Cincinnati Zoo Levy; David R. Lofland, Jr., Vice-President and Senior Client Advisor for Wealth Management at PNC Advisors; Valerie L. Newell, Managing Director at RiverPoint Capital



Look who's turning 100!

Eden Park's 1904 Spring House, known by most people as the Gazebo, is the oldest park structure and has become the symbol for the Cincinnati Park system. It was incorporated into the Park's logo in the early 1990's. Located adjacent to Mirror Lake in Eden Park, this gazebo was built in 1904 to replace a straw-shack spring house. Water from the spring was thought to have medicinal qualities and 100 barrels of water were carried away daily by the public until it was found to be contaminated in 1912 and permanently sealed. Designed by Cornelius Foster, this magnificent structure is reminiscent of Moorish architecture with its scalloped arches, tile roof and ball finial on the top. To celebrate this 100 year milestone, the Cincinnati Park Board will be giving this landmark structure a facelift and restoration this summer.

Krohn Conservatory

Here Come the Butterflies!

The 9th Annual International Butterfly Show will open on May 8 and run through June 20 from 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. "Wings Around The World" will feature more than 75 unique and exotic butterflies from all corners of the globe including North America, Central America, Asia, Africa, and the Philippines.

This annual event has become a favorite of Krohn visitors and continues to delight young and old with the breathtaking display of free flying butterflies. Each visitor has the opportunity to observe the beauty of the butterflies up close and to delight in this extraordinary visual exhibit. More than 1,000 butterflies are released inside the Conservatory each week to ensure that everyone has a memorable visit.

"For nature lovers, for families, or perhaps even for a few quiet minutes to yourself, the Butterfly Show offers one of the few places left in the world to relax, slow down, and enjoy one of the

most spectacular displays of life on this planet," said Ruthann Spears, Krohn Conservatory manager and Founder of the show. "The fact that all of them (the butterflies) will be flying around together freely is truly an incredible sight to see."

The Butterfly Show represents the entire metamorphosis of these amazing creatures from leaf-eating caterpillars to the sole resident inside a homemade cocoon or chrysalis to the rebirth of a beautiful butterfly. Guests will also discover a Butterfly Nursery where they can gaze upon one of the true wonders of these graceful insects as they expand newborn wings in preparation for their first flight.

For additional information about the 2004 International Butterfly Show, please call 513-421-5707 (513-352-3380 TTY) or visit www.butterflyshow.com.

"Wings Around The World", will be sponsored by the Lazarus/Macy's Fund of the Federated Department Stores Foundation.

Orchid House to Expand

The Dornette Foundation is funding a \$250,000 expansion project for the Orchid House that will almost double the area of the current exhibit, increase the size of the current 1,200 orchid collection, and diversify the collection to include carnivorous plants. The carnivorous collection will be the only public display of its kind in the region. The project will also include a replicated display habitat of trees, rocks and a cascading water pool. New visitor interpretive information and resource materials along with signs will be added to the exhibit.



The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society will present the 2004 Spring Orchid Display and Competition on Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18.



Krohn Conservatory is among only a few conservatories and botanical gardens in the country participating in the U. S. Department of Agriculture's orchids rescue program, receiving orchids confiscated at the U. S. border.

The gift for the new orchid house is made possible by the generosity of the late Helen Dornette who created the H. G., H. F. & L. T. Dornette Foundation.



Krohn Renovation to Begin June 21st

Following the 2004 Butterfly Show, the doors to Krohn will temporarily close while they reglaze the glass in the Palm House. Also during this time, Krohn workers will be busy installing the new orchid display. Krohn will be closed from June 21 - October 22, 2004.



Cincinnati Parks Continues Its Winning Ways!

Cincinnati Parks — already cited as one of the nation's best Parks systems by the Trust for Public Land — has recently earned even more awards for excellence!

• The Ohio Parks and Recreation Association has honored Cincinnati Parks with an award of distinction for "Park Development of Over \$5 Million". The "meritorious" award was bestowed in recognition of the development of the new Theodore M. Berry International Friendship Park at the east end of downtown Cincinnati.

• The Cincinnati Landscape Architecture firm Human Nature, Inc. along with EDAW of



Alexandria, Virginia, received the award for landscape architecture for the design of the Theodore M. Berry International Friendship Park (TMBIFP). Kolar Design, a Cincinnati environmental graphics design firm also received a Cincinnati Design award for their environmental graphics at Friendship Park. The Cincinnati Design Awards program is sponsored by the American Institute of Architect's (AIA) Cincinnati Chapter, the Cincinnati/Dayton City Center Chapter of the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and the Midwest Ohio Region chapter of the Society of Environmental Graphic Design (SEGD).

• Jan Brown Checco won the Individual category in this year's Post-Corbett Awards for the Clay, Color and Fire project at TMBIFP. Ms. Brown Checco created a partnership between the Cincinnati Park Board, the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning and the Sister Cities Association of Greater Cincinnati. The group brought master ceramic artists from each of Cincinnati's seven sister cities together to create mosaic tiles for the columns at TMBIFP's Friendship Pavilion. The Post-Corbett Awards, recognizing the "Best of the Arts," have been given since 1975. The public makes nominations and a panel of judges drawn from the community chooses the finalists and winners.

• The Clay, Color and Fire project was also recognized as a Finalist in the "Extraordinary Events" category of the Post-Corbett Awards for demonstrating how to build and create a collaborative international arts project. The November 18 edition of the Cincinnati Post noted that "The program strengthened the ties among three Greater Cincinnati organizations: the Sister Cities Association of Greater Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Park Board and the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning. More than 100 Cincinnatians participated as artist apprentices, workshop assistants, sponsors and host families."

Parks' Winter Memories



Krohn Conservatory 2003 Holiday Show



Balluminaria • Mirror Lake in Eden Park November 29, 2003



Winter in the Woodlands California Woods • December 13, 2003

Did you know. . .

. . . that you can provide funds to buy a park bench. . . or underwrite the cost of day camp for a needy child. . . or make a donation that will maintain one of the collections at Krohn?

The Cincinnati Parks Gift Catalog is a compilation of gift opportunities that cover a wide range of park needs. Every gift supplements the city tax dollars, which support the basics of the park system.

If you are looking for a way to recognize the memory of a loved one or if you want to support the on-going programs and services of the Cincinnati Parks, we encourage you to consider making a financial contribution.

For more information about all of the gift opportunities or to receive your copy of the Cincinnati Parks Gift Catalog, please contact Jessica Mathews at 357-2621.



Mickey Kaplan Tree Dedication: In appreciation for her service as a Cincinnati Park Trustee and her generous support, a tree was planted in Mickey's memory at French Park on December 4, 2003. Manning the shovels are: Augustine A. Long, Cincinnati Parks Foundation, President; Roscoe A. Fultz, Board of Park Commissioner; Marian J. Lindberg, President Board of Park Commissioners; Willie F. Carden, Jr., Director, Cincinnati Parks; and Dr. Stanley J. Kaplan.

Cincinnati Parks Foundation

Benefit Sold-out at the Playhouse in the Park

A good time was had by all who attended the sold-out benefit performance of *Always. . . Patsy Cline* on January 9 at the Playhouse. The event raised \$27,000 for Cincinnati Parks. This benefit was presented by Margaret and A.G. Lafley, US Bank and the Cincinnati Park Board.

Supporting sponsors were Cincinnati Horticultural Society, Frost Brown Todd, Graydon Head & Richey, Otto M. Budig Family Foundation, PNC Advisors, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, and Anne and Allen Zaring. In-kind catering sponsors included: Mix It Up, Chefs Choice, Elegant Fare, Village Pantry, A Taste of Class, Jeff Thomas, Bensons, and Montgomery Inn. Flowers were donated by April Flowers and Gifts.

Alms Park Overlook Campaign

Friends of Alms Park, a new advocacy group committed to the restoration and enhancement of Alms Park, is being led by Anne Fogel-Burchanel. This group is actively supporting the development efforts to meet the financial goal necessary to complete the overlook project. The project will include a pergola, wheel-chair accessible walkway, benches and plantings. So far \$45,000 of the \$95,000 goal has been raised. Naming opportunities are still available on benches, columns, and on select areas of imbedded stone. To make a donation, or for more details about this project, please call Jessica Mathews at 357-2621.



Willie F. Carden Jr., Director Cincinnati Parks accepts a \$10,000 donation from Ina Levinson, Saks Fifth Avenue store manager, for Nature Next Door, a Nature Education program.



September 12, 2003. Willie F. Carden Jr. congratulates Ault Park Adopt-a-Plot coordinator, Betty Moscové at the annual Volunteer Recognition Reception.



Events Sampler

Krohn Conservatory Lily Show <i>"Springtime in Paris"</i> April 10 - April 25 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Easter Sunday, April 11 • 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Eden Park
Krohn Conservatory Spring Orchid Display and Competition Sat. April 17 • Sun. April 18 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eden Park
Cincinnati Wild! Nature through Art Sun., April 18 • 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Caldwell Park
Cicada Cavalcade Sun., April 25 • 2 pm. - 3:30 p.m. Avon Woods Natural Area/Preserve
Nature Babies: Wild Encounters From A Stroller Fri., April 30 • 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Ault Park
Krohn Conservatory 2004 International Butterfly Show <i>"Wings Around the World"</i> Sat., May 8 – June 20 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eden Park
Plaza Jazz Series Sat., May 15 - June 12; Sept. 4 - 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Burnett Woods Fountain Plaza
Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra Mon., May 31 • 3 p.m. Eden Park - Seasongood Pavilion
LPK Acoustic Lunch Series Tues., June, July, August 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Piatt Park - Downtown
Ault Park Advisory Council Dance Series Thurs., June 17, July 15, Aug. 19 6 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Ault Park – Pavilion
Family Fun Fridays Fridays, June 18, 25 July 2, 9, 16, 23 Rapid Run Park
Juneteenth Celebration Sat., June 19 • Noon - 9 p.m. Eden Park - Mirror Lake
Big Dance Series Weds., 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. June 23 • Owl's Nest Park July 14 • Mt. Echo Park August 18 • Eden Park- Seasongood Pavilion
Summer Sounds in Burnet Woods Sun., June 27, July 18, Aug. 8 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Burnet Woods - Bandstand
Independence Day Celebration Sun., July 4 • All Day Ault Park
Edensong Series (Queen City Balladeers) Fridays, July 9, 16, 23, 30 • 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. Eden Park • Seasongood Pavilion
National Night Out Tues., Aug. 3 • 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Ault Park

SAVE THE DATES!

Mt. Airy Forest Festival Sat., October 23 • Noon - 5 p.m. Mt. Airy Forest
A Cincinnati Holiday Show November 20 - January 2, 2005 Krohn Conservatory - Eden Park
Balluminaria! <i>Hot Air Balloon Glow</i> Sat., November 27 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Mirror Lake - Eden Park
Winter in the Woodlands Sat., December 11 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. California Woods Nature Center

For a complete event listing, visit www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks or call 513-352-4080.

They’re Coming Ba-a-ack!

Cicadas About to Emerge After 17-year Sleep

After 17 years off-stage — during which time they’ve been underground preparing for their re-emergence — Mother Nature is ready to re-introduce the Cicada and the musical extravaganza that will accompany their debut! But have no fear — all you need to do is relax and enjoy the show. After all, the average person gets only four or five such opportunities to witness a cicada invasion in a lifetime!

The show begins in early May, when small holes or "mud chimneys" appear on the ground. During the night just one or two weeks later, hump-backed nymphs emerge at night and determinedly climb up tree trunks. Their large, claw-like front legs (designed for digging) may look fierce, but they really can’t hurt people. Just like butterflies emerging from a chrysalis, cicadas split open the larval skin, and wriggle out soft, pale and wrinkled. As they flex their muscles and pump fluids through their new bodies and wings, the bodies harden and darken, the eyes turn red, and their clear wings expand and stiffen, sparkling with iridescent colors between orange-red veins. Many cicadas will not make it through this stage. That’s because emerging nymphs and soft-bodied adults are gobbled up by reptiles, mammals large and small, and birds.

Those that do survive metamorphosis continue to climb to the very tips of tree branches, where the males begin their love song. It starts as a quiet trill, grows in volume as even more cicadas emerge and join in, and becomes, in a week or two, a dull roar that drowns out most other natural sounds. Listen carefully, and you

may be able to hear three different songs. Our Periodical Cicada is actually three species that emerge together; each has a different call. They sing all day, but not at night. They sing incessantly — while carried captive by a child, while being eaten by a cat — even while mating! They sing until they die — but if the truth be told, they really don’t "sing" at all. The noise we hear is the vibration of membranes stretched over a pair of sound chambers in their abdomens. But the purpose of all that racket is to attract a female — so the ancient Greeks considered the sounds they make sacred love songs.

These love calls also attract birds, domestic cats and dogs, and Cicada Killer hornets during the day. Wild mammals and reptiles feast nightly and wildlife virtually gorges itself. In other times and cultures, humans also feasted (and still do) on cicadas, considering them a delicious food. M-m-m, m-m-m!

After the male song succeeds and mating occurs, the males weaken, fall to the earth and die. After seventeen years underground and a few brief weeks in the sun, their purpose in life is accomplished. The females survive a while longer, in order to lay their eggs. This egg-laying is the only harm these insects do (they can damage young trees and shrubs). Cicadas may be large, noisy and numerous, but there is absolutely no reason to fear them. They do not bite, sting or scratch. They’re edible. Even small children can play with them safely. In Eastern cultures, they are considered to be good-luck!

Females slit the bark on young twigs and deposit their eggs in the slits. Each female makes six to

twenty slits in V-shaped pairs. If too many female cicadas slit the twigs on a young tree, the twigs may die and the tree will experience a serious setback in its growth. Egg-laying can also destroy fruit crop production. To minimize losses, young trees should be protected by covering them with cheesecloth or mosquito netting fastened tightly enough to keep cicadas from getting into the trees. The netting should be in place by mid-May, and remain until mid-July. Planting new trees or shrubs should be delayed until fall.

Once their eggs are laid, the females die. By mid-July, no adult Periodical Cicadas remain alive. (We will have the usual crop of Annual Cicadas in late summer.) Eggs hatch in about six weeks. Then, tiny ant-like larvae drop to the ground, bury themselves, and begin a seventeen-year career of sucking sap from rootlets.

Many people will breathe a sigh of relief when the "invasion" is over. But it would be sad indeed if Mother Nature lost her power to occasionally awe and overwhelm us. The "endless" eastern forests are gone; the vast flocks of passenger pigeons have faded into extinction; but the cicadas are still here. Enjoy the show!

Want to learn more about Magicicada? Park Naturalists will present Periodical Cicada programs on Sun. April 25 (to help you get prepared!) and on Sat. June 5 (during full emergence). Call 321-6070 for more information!



Quality Nature Education at Cincinnati Parks
The Tradition Continues!



Hester Stephenson with visiting class at Trailside Planetarium.

Traditions are very important to the citizens of Cincinnati. From the Reds’ Opening Day parade, the holiday manger scene or the Easter display at Krohn Conservatory and a three-way at a neighborhood chili parlor to downtown’s annual "Oktoberfest", traditions provide us with a sense of comfort, familiarity, warmth and home. Cincinnati traditions may seem a bit odd to those who live outside the region — but anyone who has lived in this incredible city for any length of time longs to share in many of these time-honored traditions.

The Cincinnati Park Board’s Nature Education Centers have been providing quality nature oriented programs to the citizens of Cincinnati since 1927. Three generations of Cincinnatians have participated in these historic nature activities — now a familiar tradition in greater Cincinnati. Early Park Naturalists included the Stephenson sisters — Misses Hester and Bea — who provided nature instruction to thousands of Cincinnati

youth from 1927 to 1968. Their "classroom" was the soon to be renovated Trailside Nature Center in Burnet Woods. Bert Lawson started teaching nature lore from the California Woods Nature Center in 1936. These early pioneers of nature education influenced many young people in the 1930s, 40s, 50s and 60s to be good stewards of the earth.

The tradition is still very much alive in our 21st century world. The Cincinnati Park Board operates five nature centers that are staffed by full time and part time Park Naturalists. The professional staff still instructs youth and adults in the tri-state region about the interrelationships between man and the natural world. Teaching methods have changed over the past 77 years, but the subject of study has remained constant. The Naturalists of today now have modern concerns such as keeping up with state science proficiency standards, competing with soccer schedules and creating educational programs that are more entertaining than video games.

The summer nature day camp tradition also continues today. Grandparents who attended Cincinnati Park

Board camps many years ago are now signing up their grandkids for summer camps in their neighborhood parks. Summer day camps this year commence on June 14 and conclude on August 6. There are numerous types of summer camps such as; Nature Adventure Camps, Outdoor Skill Camps, Nature Art and Theater Camps, Inner-City Nature Next Door Camps, Preschool Camps and Nature Camps in the Parks. The Nature Education staff will have camps throughout the summer for children ages 3 to 13 in 16 different Cincinnati parks. These camps fill up very quickly so families are encouraged to plan ahead and register early!

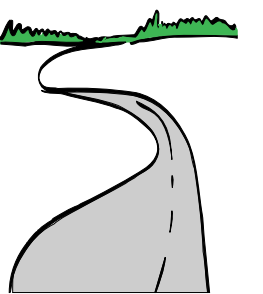
Also, the Cincinnati Parks nature education staff provides free family nature programs in a different Cincinnati park each weekend. Call 321-6070 or check web page www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks for summer day camp schedules, camp registration forms and the weekend nature program schedule.

The rich tradition of quality nature education programs at Cincinnati Parks continues — 77 years and still going strong!



"Old" Trailside Museum

Trivia



Trails

What one mile loop trail in the Cincinnati Park's trail system was part of the old narrow gauge railroad called the Cincinnati Portsmouth Railroad?

(see below for answer)

Nature Preserve.
California Woods
located in the
nature trail
a scenic one mile loop
Trails Program and is
National Rails to
part of the
California Woods is
Junction Trail at
The California

Answer

General Information:

Cincinnati Park Board
950 Eden Park Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
513/352-4080
513/352-3380 (TTY)
513/352-4096 (fax)
www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks

Cincinnati Parks Foundation
950 Eden Park Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
513/357-2619
513/352-4096 (fax)

Cincinnati Parks Volunteers
513/352-4080

Public Nature Programs
513/321-6070

Krohn Conservatory
513/352-4080

Reservations
Picnic areas, shelters,
bandstands, and outdoor
wedding areas: 513/357-2604

Alms, Ault, and Mt. Echo
pavilions; French House;
Mt. Airy lodges; Krohn
Conservatory: 513/351-4777

Special Use Permits
513/357-2605

Information/Parks Visitor
Center
513/352-4080



ParkWays
is made possible,
in part, through
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the Peters Family.

Fun at the
Mt. Airy Forest Festival
Saturday, October 25, 2003



The Lumberjack show displayed amazing skills.



A chain saw sculpture artist works his magic.

Fun at the Nature Education interactive exhibit.



Can't have a festival without the corn-hole game!

A future "Friend of the Park" hugs Mr. Tree.

Festival-goers enjoy the day.

NATURE EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Cincinnati Parks offers a variety of Nature Education Programs during the spring and summer for the entire family. Join us for our many naturalist-led programs!

Preschool Nature Camps

California Woods • Mondays, April 19 - May 24 • 12:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Avon Woods • Wednesdays, March 24 - May 5 • 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
LaBoiteaux Woods • Fridays, April 2 - May 21 • 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Sign up your 4 -5 yr. old for this active and educational weekly nature camp.
Call 321-6070 for registration information.

Spring Wildflower Walks

California Woods • Sat., April 17 • 10 a.m. - Noon
Call 231-8678 for more information.
LaBoiteaux Woods • Sun., April 18 • 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Walk and Nature Art Show
Call 542-2909 for more information.

Summer Nature Day Camps

Nature Camps will take place for children ages 4-12 at 16 different Cincinnati Parks from June 14 - August 13. Each week long camp will be filled with fun and educational activities.
Call 321-6070 to find out about the nature day camp in your neighborhood park.

Canoeing in the City

Inwood Park • Friday, June 25 • 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Rapid Run Park • Friday, July 30 • 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Mirror Lake/Eden Park • Friday, August 13 • 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Join the Cincinnati Park Naturalist staff when they put the canoes in the ponds of the Cincinnati Parks.
Call 321-6070 for more information.

Nature Sampler Weekend

Sat., Sept. 25 - Sun., Sept. 26
The Cincinnati Park Board and all nature education agencies in the tri-state region will be presenting a family fun weekend of nature activities. Call 321-6070 for all the details.

Call 621-6070 to receive a complete program guide or visit the Cincinnati Parks website at www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks

ParkWays

Newsletter of the Cincinnati Parks

Cincinnati Park Board • Cincinnati Parks Foundation
950 Eden Park Drive • Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Return Service Requested

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